

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Family Law

5-801.

(a) [This section applies only in Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's counties.

(b)] A person who is charged with the care of a child under the age of 8 years may not allow the child to be locked or confined in a dwelling, building, [or] enclosure, OR MOTOR VEHICLE while the person charged is absent AND THE DWELLING, BUILDING, ENCLOSURE, OR MOTOR VEHICLE IS OUT OF THE SIGHT OF THE PERSON CHARGED unless the person charged provides a reliable person at least 13 years old to remain with the child to protect the child from---fire,---scalding,---smoke--inhalation,--{or} suffocation,--OR-WEATHER-CONDITIONS.

[(c)] (B) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding [\$1,000] \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding [1 year] 30 DAYS, or both.

[5-802.

(a) This section does not apply if the enclosure in which the child is confined is a fenced yard.

(b) In Howard County, a person who is charged with the care of a child under the age of 8 years may not allow the child to be locked or confined in a dwelling, building, or enclosure while the person charged is absent and the dwelling, building, or enclosure is out of the sight of the person charged unless the person charged provides a reliable person at least 13 years old to remain with the child to protect the child from fire, scalding, smoke inhalation, or suffocation.

(c) A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding 1 year, or both.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1986.

Approved May 13, 1986.
